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NO. LTC # **293-2010**

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO: Mayor Matti H. Bower and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Jorge M. Gonzalez, City Manager

DATE: November 1, 2010

SUBJECT: FDOT Port of Miami Tunnel Project (POMT)

The purpose of this Letter to Commission (LTC) is to provide you with an update on the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) District Six Port of Miami Tunnel (POMT) Project. According to the October 2010 POMT Progress Report, the design and construction phases of the POMT Project are moving along as scheduled (Attachment 1).

FDOT will be shifting the three (3) eastbound travel lanes on the MacArthur Causeway to the south in order to widen the median to accommodate the construction of the tunnel. This new alignment will remain in effect for a minimum of one (1) year, at which time the eastbound travel lanes will be slightly modified to connect with the new tunnel and the widening of the bridge.

This lane shifting work will take approximately twelve (12) hours to complete and is scheduled to begin on Monday, November 15, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. and end on Tuesday, November 16, 2010 by 7:00 a.m. During the lane shifting work, the eastbound MacArthur Causeway will be open to traffic at all times; however, one (1) to two (2) travel lanes will be closed throughout this work.

The Maintenance of Traffic (MOT) plan includes the utilization of electronic message boards and intelligent transportation system (ITS) signs that will notify the public about the lane shift before and while the work is conducted. FDOT will also notify residents of the MOT plan through the distribution of a press release to local media and on their website: www.portofmiamitunnel.com. City staff will post a Public Advisory on the City's website. FDOT has coordinated with the Special Events Office and does not anticipate impacts to any major events in the area, such as the South Florida International Auto Show.

Police officers will be assisting FDOT's contractor with the execution of the MOT plan. FDOT has also developed a contingency plan that includes back-up paving and milling machines to ensure the work is completed on time. If delays occur due to weather, FDOT will perform the lane shift on Tuesday, November 16, 2010 starting at 7:00 p.m. and ending by 7:00 a.m.

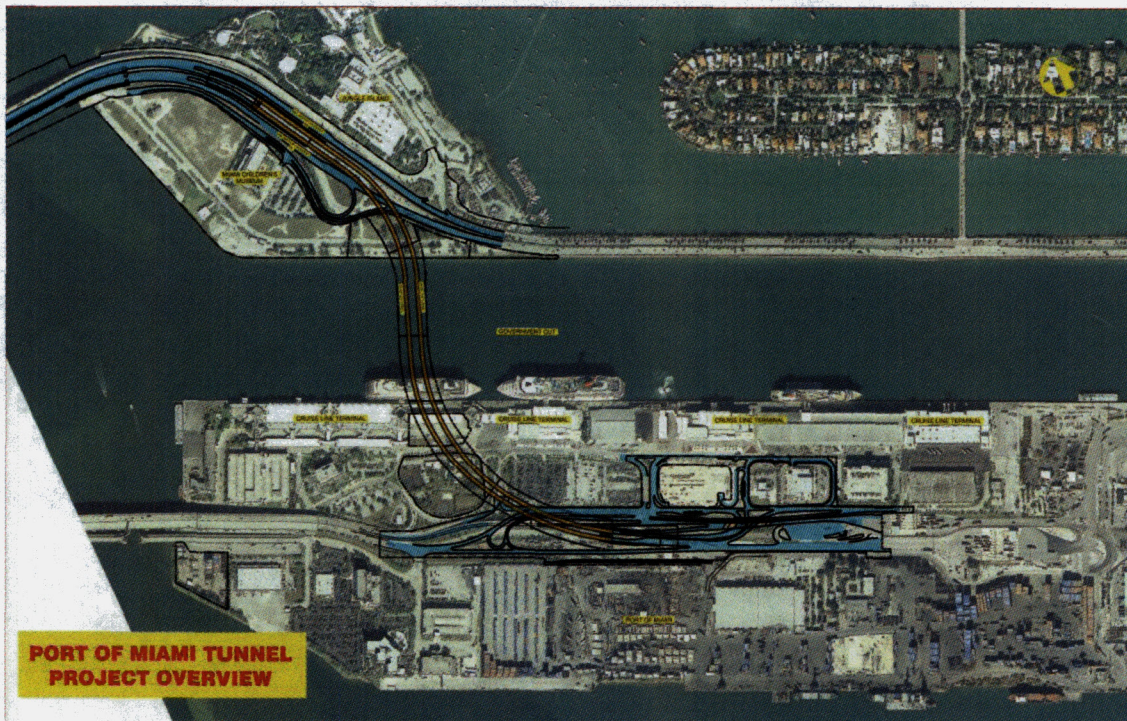
City staff will be closely coordinating all activities with FDOT and their contractor during this work, and will keep you informed on all aspects.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Attachment:

1. October 2010 POMT Progress Report

JMG/JSC/FHB/FV/RS/CB



NOTICE TO PROCEED #1 – DESIGN	OCT 15, 2009	CONCESSION AGREEMENT:	35 YEARS
NOTICE TO PROCEED #2 - CONSTRUCTION	MAY 24, 2010	DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION DURATION:	55 MONTHS
PROJECTED CONSTRUCTION SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETION	MAY 15, 2014	CONCESSIONAIRE:	MAT CONCESSIONAIRE, LLC
CONSTRUCTION COST:	\$607,000,000	DESIGN/BUILD CONTRACTOR:	BOUYGUES CIVIL WORKS FLORIDA (BCWF)
MILESTONE PAYMENT DURING CONSTRUCTION:	\$100,000,000	OPERATOR / MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR:	TRANSFIELD / VMS
MILESTONE PAYMENT AT FINAL ACCEPTANCE:	\$350,000,000	FDOT OWNER'S REPRESENTATIVE & CEI:	PB AMERICAS

CURRENT MAJOR ACTIVITIES:

Design:

Final plans for Parrot Jungle Trail, MacArthur Causeway Roadway and Retaining Walls have been released for construction, and Design efforts continue on the MacArthur Causeway Bridge widening. Support of Excavation and Drilled Shaft Final plans have been submitted and are under review by the Department. In addition, the Tunnel Lining (60%) plans have also been submitted for review. Review and comment resolution meetings are on-going. The geotechnical exploration work as part of the design phase on

Watson Island has been completed. Design-Build Team continues to work with governmental agencies in the development of the Master Signage Plan for the overall project.

Contractor submitted Final Package #1 plans for the Dodge Island Roadways which includes early utility relocation work and drainage along the southern project limits. Plans are currently under review by the Department. The soil and utility investigation work is still on-going on Dodge Island and should be completed in November. In addition, geotechnical exploration in the channel is ongoing. Contractor has obtained permits from Army Corp of Engineers and DERM, and is pending approval from FDEP to proceed with sonic cores in the channel.

Construction:

Contractor continues working on the new alignment for the eastbound lanes on MacArthur Causeway along with the new exit ramp to Parrot Jungle Trail. Eastbound MacArthur Causeway will be shifted south in order to widen the median to accommodate the construction of the tunnel. Traffic has been shifted onto the new Parrot Jungle Trail. MacArthur Causeway westbound was restriped to open up the median area for drainage work which is ongoing. Drainage work for retention pond on Watson Island is ongoing. Grout batch plant has been installed for the Support of Excavation Activities on Watson Island and contractor has begun working on the U-Wall construction, specifically the Concrete Soil Mix (CSM) walls. Contractor also began the construction of the Mechanically Stabilized Earth (MSE) walls on the south side of MacArthur Causeway in preparation for the new alignment.

Contractor is still in the process of obtaining the site installation permits on Watson Island for the tunnel support operations (water treatment plant, the concrete batch plant, cooling system and power system) which will all be located under the MacArthur Causeway bridge.

Contractor began site establishment on Dodge Island which includes fencing the construction perimeter along the southern limits in accordance with Package #1 plans.

The Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM) is currently being designed and fabricated, and early assembly began during the first week of October 2010. The machine is expected to arrive to the project in May 2011. Contractor continues to work on the temporary electrical service point that will supply power to the TBM on Watson Island.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH / RECRUITMENT EFFORTS:

The Concessionaire continues a vigorous job recruitment effort with over 600 people attending three job fairs held throughout Miami Dade County. The job fairs were held at the "Folk Life Friday" event in Overtown at which over 200 applications were accepted. In addition a job fair was held at Juan Pablo Duarte Park at which 400 people filled out applications. In addition, the Concessionaire also held another "table top" outreach at the Hospitality Institute at the AME Bethel Church.

The Concessionaire is also working on a program to start 12 current employees in a Job Training program to enhance their skill sets. They currently have 117 employees of which 90 are local hires. In addition, 2 new environmental engineer positions were advertised over the past three weeks.

UPCOMING MAJOR ACTIVITIES:

Contractor is expected to shift the eastbound lanes on MacArthur Causeway onto the new alignment of eastbound MacArthur in order to begin tunnel preparation work in the median.

Contractor is expected to begin the demolition of the old Port Security Gate and initial utility relocation work per Package #1 plans.

PROJECTED COMMUNITY OUTREACH / RECRUITMENT EFFORTS:

Outreach and notification will continue with the email blast to over 30 Governmental and non-governmental organizations. In addition, the Concessionaire launched "Operation 305" on October 27, 2010, which will include a Contractor & Supplier Expo scheduled for November 18th, 2010 at the Doubletree Grand Hotel Biscayne Bay. More information is available at www.operation305.com.



MacArthur Causeway Aerial (10-25-10)



***Watson Island – New Parrot Jungle Trail
South Side of MacArthur Causeway & Support of Excavation Work (10-25-10)***



***Watson Island – BCWF Construction Compound (Left)
New Parrot Jungle Trail (Right)
South Side of MacArthur Causeway (10-25-10)***



***Watson Island – New Parrot Jungle Trail
South Side of MacArthur Causeway & Future Eastbound Lanes
For MacArthur Causeway (10-25-10)***